
Report to: Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership Board (LEP Board)

Date: 13 June 2023

Subject: **Nomination to the Combined Authority and Outside Bodies**

Led By: Mark Roberts, Interim Chair

Lead Officer: Caroline Allen, Head of Legal and Governance Services

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To approve the recommendation in relation to a LEP Member and Substitute LEP Member to the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (“the Combined Authority”).
- 1.2 To approve nominations of LEP Board members to committees of the Combined Authority and to agree future arrangements for filling vacancies.
- 1.3 To agree nominations in relation to private sector membership to committees of the Combined Authority and to recommend these to the Combined Authority.
- 1.4 To note and agree the recommendation in relation to a member and substitute member to the Transport for the North (TfN) Partnership Board.
- 1.5 To note the LEP’s representative to other external bodies.

2. Information

Nomination of LEP Member and Substitute

- 2.1 The West Yorkshire Combined Authority Order 2014 (“the 2014 Order”) although modified by West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Election of Mayor and Functions) Order 2021 continues to provide that the Combined Authority shall appoint a member of the LEP nominated by the LEP to be a Combined Authority Member, (“the LEP Member”). The Combined Authority must also appoint a Substitute LEP Member, to act in their absence. It is proposed to the Board that once appointed, the new LEP Chair will become the LEP Member and the Deputy Chair once appointed will be the Substitute LEP Member.

Nominations to Combined Authority committees

2.2 As the LEP Board are aware, the structure of the Combined Authority includes thematic decision making 'portfolio' committees. These comprise:

- Business, Economy & Innovation Committee
- Climate, Energy & Environment Committee
- Culture, Sport, Arts & Creative Industries Committee
- Employment and Skills Committee
- Finance, Resources & Corporate Committee
- Place, Regeneration & Housing Committee
- Transport Committee

LEP Board membership on Combined Authority and its committees

2.3 A number of private sector LEP Board members are members of the thematic committees and the Deputy Chair for each of these is a LEP Board member. The current LEP Board membership is set out in the schedule at Appendix 1 for consideration and approval by the Board. There are currently a number of vacancies which have arisen as a result of members terms expiring on the Board. In particular:

- **Business Economy & Innovation Committee** – one vacancy in membership (to hold the role of **Deputy Chair – voting rights**)
- **Climate, Energy & Environment Committee** – one vacancy in membership (to hold the role of **Deputy Chair – voting rights**)
- **Place, Regeneration & Housing Committee** – one vacancy in membership (to hold the role of **Deputy Chair – voting rights**)
- **Transport Committee** – two vacancies in private sector membership – one position with voting rights.

2.4 Given the current live recruitment process for LEP Board members, it is proposed that vacancies including in relation to Committee Deputy Chair appointments are made by the Combined Authority following the completion of the Board Member recruitment in consultation with the newly appointed LEP Chair and the Mayor.

Nominations to the Combined Authority for private sector (non LEP Board members) representation on Combined Authority committees

2.5 Appendix 1 to this report also sets out the current private sector (non LEP Board) membership of the Combined Authority's committees. A number of these membership terms are coming to the end of the first three years and the appendix includes proposals to extend these where appropriate for a further three years. The Board are asked to confirm the continuation of existing nominations to the Combined Authority committees and the extension of terms as set out at Appendix 1 for consideration at the Combined Authority meeting on 22 June 2023.

Transport for the North (TfN)

- 2.6 TfN seek a nomination each year at their annual meeting for a representative from each of the 11 local enterprise partnerships within the TfN area to be appointed to the TfN Partnership Board. A substitute is also required. The practice to date is that TfN Board co-opts each LEP representative on the Partnership Board as a non-voting member of the TfN Board. The Board is asked to delegate authority to the Mayor and LEP Chair to nominate the proposed LEP Member and named substitute following the completion of the Board recruitment.

LEP Chair appointment to other bodies

- 2.7 The Board are asked to note LEP appointments to other bodies as follows:

Once appointed the new LEP Chair will become the LEP Member on the Northern Powerhouse 11 (NP11) being the grouping of the 11 northern LEPs. Ben Still, in his capacity as Chief Executive, to be the alternate.

Once appointed the new LEP Chair will also become the LEP Member on the Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund Strategic Oversight Board. Ben Still, in his capacity as Chief Executive, is the alternate.

3. Tackling the Climate Emergency Implications

- 3.1. A LEP Board member and other private sector representatives are to be nominated to the Climate, Energy and Environment Committee.

4. Inclusive Growth Implications

- 4.1. Inclusivity is embedded in the objectives of each thematic committee of the Combined Authority.

5. Equality and Diversity Implications

- 5.1. Inclusivity is embedded in the objectives of each thematic committee of the Combined Authority.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. There are no financial implications directly arising from this report.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1. The 2021 Order does not require the Combined Authority's LEP Member or their substitute to be a private sector representative. However, private sector representation secures direct private sector input into the Combined Authority membership.

7.2 By law, the Combined Authority's LEP Member must be non-voting. However, the voting Combined Authority Members may resolve that this provision does not apply.

8. Staffing Implications

8.1. There are no staffing implications directly arising from this report.

9. External Consultees

9.1. No external consultations have been undertaken.

10. Recommendations

That the LEP Board:

10.1 Approves the proposal that the LEP Board Chair once appointed is the LEP Member on the Combined Authority and that the LEP Board Deputy Chair once appointed is the Substitute LEP Member on the Combined Authority.

10.2 Confirms its current nominations for private sector LEP Board membership (and roles of Deputy Chairs) on the Combined Authority's committees as set out in Appendix 1.

10.3 Delegates authority to the Mayor and LEP Chair (once appointed) to make further nominations to the Combined Authority for private sector LEP Board membership (and roles of Deputy Chairs) on Combined Authority committees following the outcome of the current recruitment process.

10.4 Nominates non LEP Board private sector representatives to committees to be appointed by the Combined Authority at its Annual Meeting, in accordance with Appendix 1 including extending the terms where appropriate.

10.5 Notes and agrees the proposals as set out in this report as to the arrangements in relation to a LEP Board member to be a member of TfN's Partnership Board, together with a substitute, noting that TfN current practice is to co-opt the LEP's representative on the Partnership Board to the TfN Board.

10.6 Notes the LEP Board appointments to other external bodies of NP11 (Northern Powerhouse 11) and NPIF SOB (Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund Strategic Oversight Board).

11. Background Documents

11.1 There are no background documents referenced in this report.

12. Appendices

Appendix 1: Private Sector Representative nominations (both LEP Board members and non LEP Board private sector representatives) to the CA Committees